

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| United States Patent Application No. | 10/549,422 |
| Confirmation Number | 9467 |
| Attorney Docket | CSI1.004 |

Via EFS-Web
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**LETTER ACCOMPANYING SUPPLEMENT TO
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

This patent application has been submitted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 371(b) as the National Stage filing of an International Patent Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty ("PCT"). Accordingly the history of International Patent Application PCT/BR/000033 is deemed to be the start of prosecution of the instant application, and the contents of the PCT file are part of the present application file.

On September 15, 2005, Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), listing references cited on the International Search Report issued by the Austrian Patent Office as International Searching Authority on September 1, 2004, for International Patent Application PCT/BR/000033.

Two references were listed on the original IDS form (PTO/SB/08a) namely U.S. Patent 6,367,099 and German patent DE 1,264,031 in German.

In the action mailed April 4, 2008, page 2, the Examiner asserted that the IDS of September 15, 2005, failed to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each foreign reference cited. Applicant responds that the references cited in the September 15, 2005 IDS were presumably available to the Examiner in the file history of the PCT application from which the present patent application is the National Stage in the U.S. The copy that the Examiner describes as "illegible" was apparently the copy of that German patent reference viewed in the Image File Wrapper.

Applicant herewith resubmits via EFS-Web this foreign reference, German patent DE 1,264,031 *along with* a machine translation into English of the specification and claims. The items have been transmitted as one computer file, and indexed as "Foreign Patent Reference."

Applicant respectfully requests that the information transmitted herewith be considered by the Examiner in the above-captioned application and be made of record therein. The Examiner is asked to confirm that DE 1,264,031 has been considered and that the claims of the instant application are patentable over this item of prior art.

Applicant believes that the present submission is in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b), and, accordingly, that no fee is required for submission thereof. Also, 37 CFR § 1.97(f) provides "If a *bona fide* attempt is made to comply with §1.98, but part of the required content is inadvertently omitted, additional time may be given to enable full compliance." Applicant hereby asserts that a *bona fide* attempt to comply has been made in the present case and respectfully requests additional time, up to the present, to comply.

However, in the event that Applicant is incorrect in understanding that the submission is in accordance with § 1.97(b), and Applicant is denied the additional time provided for in § 1.97(f), the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in government fees in connection with the present submission to deposit account 05-0845. The signature of Gerry J. Elman hereinbelow authorizes such a charge.

Respectfully submitted:

July 7, 2008

/GerryJayElman/

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

As an authorized signatory to deposit account 05-0845, I hereby authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge any deficiency in government fees in connection with the present submission to that account.

/GerryJayElman/
Gerry J. Elman
Reg. 24,404